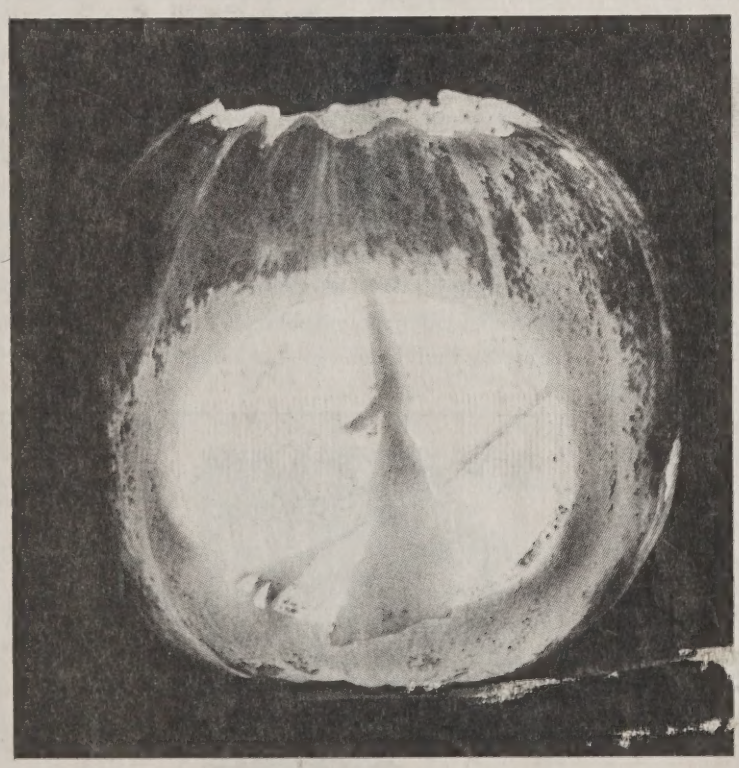
MONTEREY NEWS

November 2000
VOLUME XXX · Number 11

The Town

Election Day

Tuesday, November 7, is election day. The polls will be open at the Monterey Firehouse from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. A number of federal, state, and district offices are on the ballot, and nine ballot questions are to be decided. Because of the length and complexity of the ballot due to the ballot questions, voters are strongly urged to familiarize themselves with the questions beforehand and know how they plan to vote when they get to the polls. Town clerks have estimated that the average time voters spend in the voting booth may be as high as fourteen minutes, but that this can be considerably less if voters are well prepared. *The Official Massachusetts Information for Voters* booklet, which has been mailed to most state residents, contains summaries and the full text of Ballot Questions 1 through 8, as well as arguments for and against, and a checklist that voters can mark beforehand and take to the polls as a reminder. Copies of the booklet are available at the Town Offices.



Wayne Dunlop

This year several minor party and unenrolled candidates appear on the ballot, so voters may see some unfamiliar names besides the major party candidates. The candidates for President and Vice-President are: Browne and Olivier (Libertarian); Buchanan and Higgins, Sr. (Reform); Bush and Cheney (Republican); Gore and Lieberman (Democrat); Hagelin and Tompkin (unenrolled); and Nader and LaDuke (Green).

Candidates for U.S. Senator are: Dale E. Friedgen (unenrolled); Carla A. Howell (Libertarian); Philip Hyde, III (Timesharing not Downsizing); Edward M. Kennedy (Democrat, incumbent); Philip F. Lawler (Constitution); and Jack E. Robinson, III (Republican).

Candidates for U.S. Representative are Peter J. Abair (Republican); John W. Olver (Democrat, incumbent); and Robert L. Potvin (unenrolled).

Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr., is unopposed for the office of state senator, and Christopher J. Hodgkins is unopposed for state representative; both are incumbents. In the race for Councillor in the 8th District, incumbent Edward M. O'Brien (Democrat) is being challenged by Marshall T. Moriarty (Republican). The positions of Clerk of Court for Berkshire County, and Register of Deeds for Berkshire Southern District are uncontested.

Ballot Question 1, which, if approved, would require earlier redistricting for state legislators and governor's councillors, and Question 2, which would limit voting rights of incarcerated felons, are proposed amendments to the state constitution. Questions 3 through 8 are all laws proposed by initiative petition. Question 3 has to do with prohibiting dog races where betting occurs; Question 4 with reducing the state personal income tax to 5%; Question 5 with health insurance, health care, and patients' rights; Question 6 with allowing a state personal income tax or corporate excise tax credit for Massachusetts tolls and motor vehicle excise taxes; Question 7 with creating a state income tax deduction for charitable contributions; and Question 8 with changing state laws governing drug dependency treatment and fines paid and money and property forfeited in connection with drug crimes. Refer to the *Information for Voters* booklet for more information about these eight questions.

Question 9 is for Berkshire County only and asks voters to decide whether or not to adopt the proposed Berkshire Council of Governments Charter that would

create a regional Berkshire Council of Governments as a form of county government. The charter is twelve pages long and not easily summarized, but the proposed council would have no regulatory or taxation powers. The Charter will be binding only on the towns and cities that approve it by popular vote. Further information and a copy of the charter is available from the Town Clerk at the Town Offices.

Transportation for Elders

Charles MacNeil of the Berkshire Regional Transportation Authority met with the Select Board on October 2 to discuss the advantages of Monterey's joining the transportation for the elderly program offered by BRTA. BRTA is a public agency that can access state funding and assistance. Currently Monterey senior citizens can use transportation provided by Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corporation. MacNeil provided information about the various services offered by BRTA and how Monterey might benefit. The Select Board plans to place an article on the warrant of the 2001 Town Meeting authorizing membership in BRTA.

Scenic Mountains Act

Shep Evans, a member of the Stockbridge Conservation Commission, met with the Select Board and interested citizens on September 25 to discuss adoption of the Scenic Mountains Act. Mr. Evans outlined the history of the act, its intent and application, and the need for its adoption. The original Scenic Mountains Act was accepted by Monterey in the 1970s, but it has since been amended and the Town will have to accept its provisions again at a Town Meeting. The Select Board asked the citizens present to form an ad hoc committee to organize informational meetings and inform Monterey residents about the need for the Town to adopt the act. (See related story, p. 3.)

The *Monterey News* is published monthly under the auspices of Monterey United Church of Christ, Monterey, MA 01245.

Property Tax Hearing

On October 2, the Select Board held a public hearing to get input before establishing the percentage of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of property in the Town for Fiscal Year 2001. Assistant Assessor Harry Gustafson explained that the current classification uses a factor of 1 for all five classes of property in the Town (residential, commercial, industrial, open-space, and personal property), which means that all pay the same rate, based on full evaluation. This has been the practice because 94 percent of the property in Monterey is classified as residential and it does not seem reasonable to penalize the small amount of business property with a higher rate. The Assessors recommended that a residential factor of 1 be retained for all five property-tax classifications, and the Select Board voted unanimously to do so. Gustafson also pointed out that 68 percent of residential property is owned by second-home owners. The tax rate for Fiscal Year 2001 will be the same as last year, $9.32 per $1,000. The most recent Town valuation was $173.4 million.

Community Preservation and Growth

The Select Board sponsored a presentation on October 2 by Tony Jackman and Tom O'Brien of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) on community preservation and town growth and buildout. Mr. Jackman and Mr. O'Brien used maps and charts to demonstrate the tools available to communities in planning for future growth and to illustrate the maximum development permissible under existing zoning. Such buildout maps are sponsored by the EOEA and can be completed for the Town by a planning consultant or the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Also, up to $30,000 can be accessed by the Town to detail, with other materials, Monterey's open-space profile in accordance with the Community Preservation Act and the Scenic Mountains Act.

Town Hall Renovation

On October 16 the Select Board voted to award the contract for the Town Hall barrier removal (to make the building accessible for handicapped persons) to Allegrone Construction Co. of Pittsfield at their bid price of $367,747. The total cost of the items the Town will fund is $37,126; the balance of the cost for the work is being funded by a Community Development Block Grant from the Department of Housing and Community Development, administered by Berkshire Housing development Corporation.

Basketball Court Improved

The basketball court in Greene Park has a new asphalt surface and new backboards and rims. The backboards can be set at different heights, so even those of us who are vertically challenged may be able to dunk.

— Will Marsh
(with help from Judith Kales)

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Scenic Mountain Act Merits Study

Some twenty-five years ago, the legislators of the Commonwealth were prompted to peer into the future and visualize a time when the Berkshire hills would be a prime spot for lovers of scenic beauty. They somehow foresaw the problems that might come up when that scenic beauty and pristine environment might be endangered by development on slopes and in the watershed areas of our great ponds and lakes. For those reasons, they drafted and passed the Scenic Mountain Act, applicable only in western Massachusetts. The unusual feature of this act is that it leaves to each community the opportunity to custom design its own set of regulations before adopting the act.

For many years the act lay dormant, as slowly folks settled on the prime flatland and shore areas, leaving the steep forested hillsides and ridges in their natural state to filter rainwater and hold soil within the ecosystem. But in recent years, towns in Berkshire County are finding that those slopes and ridges are some of the only parcels of land left. Lots with a view are being denuded of trees, and houses are sprouting where once only trees marked the ridgelines. For this reason, towns in the Berkshires are revisiting the ideas put forth in the Scenic Mountain Act and finding protection there for the land and people of the towns. Nearby states are looking at enacting a similar act.

The municipality of Stockbridge has adopted the act, and at the Monterey Select Board meeting on September 25, Shep Evans of Stockbridge described the history, purpose, and drafting of Stockbridge's version of the act. It was the general consensus at the meeting that exploration of the act would be worthwhile. The Monterey Select Board is encouraging a citizen effort to examine the act as it may apply to our town. The board would like townspeople to come together to exchange ideas about which specific measures might best apply to Monterey. If you are interested in exploring this issue, please call the Select Board at Town Hall, 528-1443, to join the advisory group.

— Harriet Harvey & Patricia Edelstein

Glynis Oliver

Cell Towers Forum

The Berkshire-Litchfield Environmental Council and other area environmental groups are sponsoring a cell towers forum at the Education Connection in Litchfield, Connecticut on Saturday, December 2, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rural areas like ours are now experiencing a flood of applications for cellular and PCS telecommunications facilities, and local zoning boards and citizens have many questions about the safety of the technology and how to proceed wisely, but rarely have access to high-level expertise. At the forum a panel of experts will discuss important legislation and research efforts in the offing, recent court decisions that call the Telecom Act's Constitutional status into question, new technology that may make some towers obsolete while allowing others to evolve into something zoners never intended, and new environmental concerns over bird kills and towers that are coming to light.

For more information on the forum program, call Berkshire-Litchfield Environmental Council, (860) 435-2004; for registration information call Judy Saverine at (860) 567-0863 or e-mail saverine@educationconnection.org.

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From the Meetinghouse ...

Almost every day I find myself asking, "What is a church? What is the purpose of spiritual community? Why do people come together to seek God?" It is so much easier to find the Spirit in solitude, in the woods, in the car, anywhere but in a room full of people! Jesus even said, "When you pray, go to your room and shut the door." Still we must come together for a reason, we choose to do it so often. At church, or a town meeting, or the steak roast, or a meal at Gould Farm, or just for coffee at the General Store. We are social animals; we find something of the sacred in other people, in spite of how hard it can be to get along with all of them. Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk and author, wrote, "We should all depend on one another for our salvation."

One of the basic building blocks of the Gould Farm community is the belief that being with other people brings you out of yourself. We need to be pulled out of the distraction of thoughts, anxiety, and pain inside ourselves. Being together makes room in us for what truly sustains us: community, giving and receiving love, acceptance ... The Tao Te Ching says, "Allow yourself to be empty, and you will be filled." We yearn to clear out the mental and physical clutter in our lives, to be emptied of everything that is not essential. Just spending some intentional time with family, friends, or with anyone, really, can be enough to refocus us, to bring us back to the things that are sacred. The Gospel of Matthew says, "Blessed are the pure in heart, they shall see God." And, of course, we find God most potently in one another.

On this note of togetherness (you're going to think I was setting you up!), the Monterey Church is hosting an Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration, on Sunday, November 19, at 10:00 a.m. We'll share lots of great music, the Girl Scout troop will be gathering an offering of canned foods (please bring donations), and prayers and stories will be shared by local folks who are Native American, Buddhist, Christian, and others yet to join in. Hope to see you there, or around town!

— Heidi Haverkamp, Student Pastor

Proposed Hudson Cement Plant Sparks Controversy

Nathan Smith of Sheffield and Robin Fasano of Great Barrington, representing the group Berkshire Friends of Hudson, met with the Monterey Select board on October 16 to address the possible environmental impact on South Berkshire County towns of the proposed construction of a large coal-burning cement plant near Hudson, New York, about twenty-five miles west of Great Barrington.

St. Lawrence Cement, a Montreal-based company, plans to build a $300 million plant on a nearly three-square-mile property that extends from the Hudson River across wetlands and public roads into the hills surrounding the city of Hudson. St. Lawrence Cement, which runs four cement plants in North America, is owned by Holnan, a North American holding company that owns thirteen more cement plants. Holnan is in turn owned by the Swiss multinational holding company Holderbank, controlled by Thomas Schmidheiny, one of the one hundred richest people in the world. Holderbank owns about 60 percent of global cement production.

According to St. Lawrence Cement the proposed Hudson plant would replace the company's existing plant across the Hudson River in Catskill with state-of-the-art, less polluting technology, so that the new plant, though larger, would

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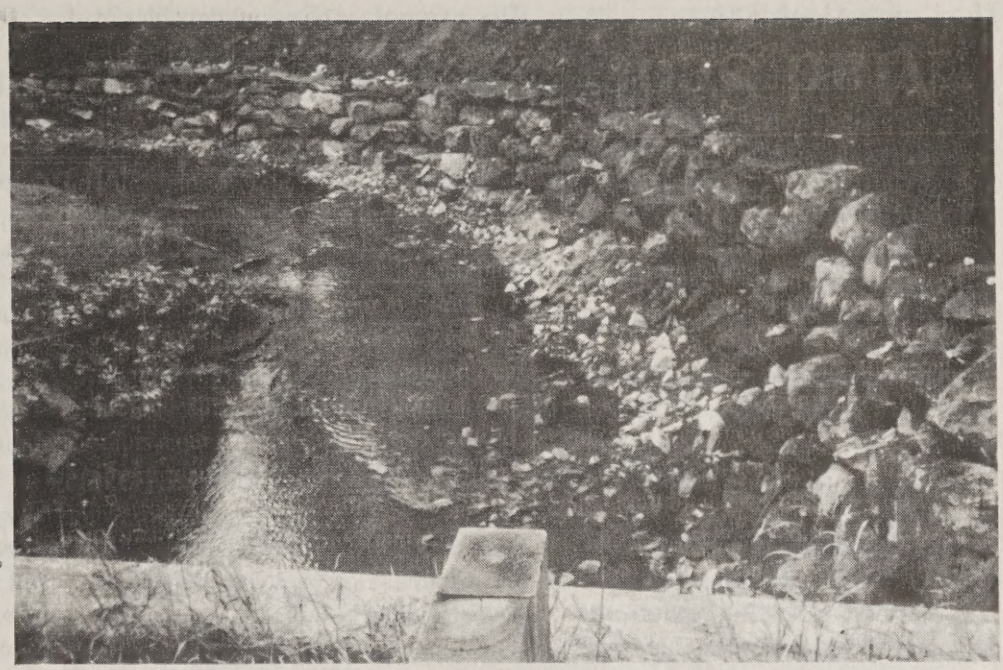
create less pollution than the Catskill plant currently does. The new plant would be fueled by coal, with a 392-foot smokestack, and would produce about 2.2 million tons of cement a year, more than three times the annual production of the Catskill plant. St. Lawrence Cement transports and sells cement throughout the Northeast (including to Boston's Big Dig) and expects that most of the cement from the new plant will go to Boston, Baltimore, New York, and Philadelphia. The majority of the outgoing product would be transported by barge, necessitating the construction of a huge new dock facility (right next to Hudson's proposed park and recreation area, according to opponents).



George Emmons

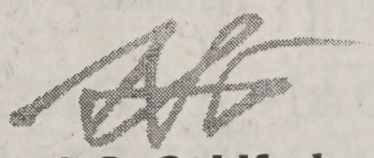
Riprap along bank of Konkapot near Post Office was part of Bidwell Park road repair.

Friends of Hudson is a pro-environment citizens' group organized about a year ago to oppose construction of the proposed Hudson plant; it now has more than 1,300 members. A local group called Berkshire Friends of Hudson has recently organized to help bring information about the plant to area residents and officials, hence the appearance by Fasano and Smith before the Monterey Select Board. These groups warn that Berkshire County residents should be very concerned, not only because the new plant would be coal-burning (even as New York and New England suffer from the well-documented environmental damage caused by coal-burning plants in the Midwest) but even more so because, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, portland cement plants emit the three most hazardous substances known to humankind: arsenic, lead, and mercury. Cement kilns are also the third largest sources of dioxins, which like arsenic, lead, and mercury, are carcinogenic. The plants also emit microscopic particles called PM 2.5, so small (insects can breathe them) that measuring them for regulation may not be possible. Studies have shown that these particles exacerbate respiratory, pulmonary, and cardiovascular problems and cause diminished lung capacity; they are a potential major health concern because they are so small they can be breathed most deeply into the lungs. All of these emissions can easily travel one hundred miles, and since the prevailing winds in this region are westerly, Berkshire County is directly downwind of the proposed Hudson facility.

Friends of Hudson also points out that the track record of St. Lawrence Cement and its parent company is not very good, with a pattern of violations and fines at other sites. The proposed Hudson plant is not yet a done deal, as St. Lawrence is still involved in the process of obtaining the necessary local, state, and federal permits.

Berkshire Friends of Hudson has already received support and written expressions of concern from the towns of Great Barrington and Richmond, and plans to speak to select boards of other towns. At the Monterey meeting the Select Board expressed concern and urged Ms. Fasano and Mr. Smith to make information available to Monterey residents through the *Monterey News* and other avenues. Ms. Fasano stressed that there will be no positive impacts and that the plant will go through if there is no resistance to it. She urges that concerned people get involved

— Will Marsh



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Help with Health Care

The Community Health Center of the Berkshires provides health care for all ages regardless of one's ability to pay for services. The center, located on the fourth floor of Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington, helps those who are

- out of work with no insurance;
- self-employed but unable to afford insurance;
- working for an employer that does not provide health insurance;
- elderly with no medi-gap coverage;
- insured but unable to afford the deductibles;
- without a regular doctor.

Call 413-528-8580 for more information.

Another program, **Entry to Healthcare,** provides help in obtaining health insurance for those who can't afford it. Massachusetts has free or low-cost health insurance programs, including many new opportunities for low-income individuals and families to obtain health insurance coverage. Entry to Healthcare is located on the first floor of Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington; for information call 413-528-5045 (se habla español).

Yet another program, **Project HEROA** (Health Education Resources Outreach Advocacy), currently offers free or reduced rate health screening services for uninsured or underinsured women aged eighteen and older (not all services are available to all ages, and some income and residency restrictions apply).

The services are available at various locations throughout Berkshire County and in Worthington, and include pap tests, mammograms, cholesterol testing, glucose (blood sugar) testing, annual primary care checkup, and diagnostic testing for breast or cervical cancer. Project HEROA is a member of the Women's Health Network (Massachusetts) and the Healthy Women Partnership (New York). For more information or to enroll, call 1-800-40-HEROA or 413-447-2378.

And finally, the People's Pantry, located at St. Peter's Parish Center, 16 Russell Street (off Cottage and East Street), in Great Barrington provides free food for those who need it. The Pantry is open every Thursday except Thanksgiving from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Prescription Expenses Help for Elders

The Pharmacy Program is a state program that provides individuals with up to $1,250 per year to help elders and people with disabilities pay for prescription drug expenses. The program is administered by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Division of Medical Assistance. Prescriptions covered include all Therapeutic Classes except those excluded from MassHealth. Some prescription drugs may require prior authorization from the Division of Medical Assistance (Mass Health/Medicaid). Insulin and disposable syringes with needles are included in the benefit.

To be eligible, a person must

- be age 65 or older, or under age 65, work 40 hours or less per month, and meet the disability guidelines for CommonHealth;
- have a gross annual income less than $15,708 (individual) or $21,156 (married couple) — *married applicants may apply as individuals;*
- not be enrolled in MassHealth or CommonHealth.

You may apply even if you have prescription drug coverage from a Medicare HMO or other insurer.

Once you have enrolled in The Pharmacy Program and have exhausted all other prescription benefits you have, you will receive up to $1,250 to pay for your prescription medicines. The annual enrollment fee of $15 is automatically deducted from the benefit. At the time of purchase, co-payments are $3 for generic drugs, insulin, and disposable syringes, and $10 for brand name drugs.

Additional help is available from The Pharmacy Program Plus, which provides an unlimited prescription benefit to elders and younger people with disabilities whose gross annual income is less than $41,760 (individual) or $56,256 (married couple) and who have experienced high prescription expenses relative to their incomes.

No assets are countable for either of these programs.

To apply call toll-free 1-800-243-4636 or, for people with hearing disabilities, TTY: 1-800-813-7787.

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BERKSHIRE COPY JIM LAFFEY & KEN FREEBERG

Hunting Season

Deer hunting season is almost upon us, so it seems worthwhile to review some information about hunting regulations and hunters' relations with property owners. The information presented here is not complete; the official summary of state laws and regulations is contained in the booklet *Mass Wildlife: Abstracts of the 2000 Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife Laws,* from which much of the material included here is taken. Copies of the booklet are available from the Town Clerk at the Monterey Town Hall, where licenses may also be obtained.

Archery season for deer in Monterey begins on November 6 and ends on November 25 (stamp required on hunting license). Shotgun season for deer runs from November 27 through December 9, and primitive firearm season (stamp required on license) runs from December 11 through December 16. There is no hunting on Sundays. Hunting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

During shotgun season hunters may use shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, bows and arrows, or muzzleloaders, including modern muzzleloaders, muzzleloaders with telescopic sights, and sabot rounds in muzzleloaders. Archers may hunt during primitive firearms season, but must purchase a primitive firearms stamp. Primitive firearms are limited to pre-1865 design or facsimile, .44 to .775 caliber, barrel length 18 inches or more with only one barrel operative. In-line ignition systems are permitted provided the rifle loads from the muzzle, has a non-opening breech, and the ignition system is exposed to the elements. Only single lead projectiles are permitted, and powder is limited to black powder or approved substitutes; sabot rounds are prohibited. The only lawful sights are open or peep sights. (Okay, okay, a sabot round is not a little wooden shoe, but a projectile for a muzzle-loading rifle with a piece of soft metal attached to take the grooves of the rifling; the name derives from the thick wooded disks to which the cartridge bag and projectile were attached in ammunition for smoothbore cannon.)

Hunting licenses are required for all persons fifteen years of age or older and must be worn in a visible manner on outer clothing. Minors fifteen to seventeen years of age inclusive must have written consent of parent or guardian and meet other requirements to obtain a hunting license. Minors between twelve and fourteen years of age inclusive may participate in hunting when accompanied by a duly licensed adult, provided that only one firearm/bow is possessed by the two and a single bag limit is observed. During shotgun and primitive firearms seasons all hunters must wear at least 500 square inches of "hunter orange" on their heads, chests, and backs.

A hunting license is not a permit to trespass on private property, posted or not. A Monterey Town By-Law passed on May 2, 1992 states: "No person shall hunt on any Town-owned or private property in the Town of Monterey without written permission of the owner of the land upon which hunting will take place. The written permission must be carried while hunting, and be renewed on an annual basis." Licenses must be shown upon demand to any local or state law enforcement officer and to landowners, or lessees, while on their property. Discharge of any firearm or release of any arrow upon or across any state or hard-surfaced highway, or within 150 feet of any such highway, or possession of a loaded firearm, discharge of a firearm, or hunting on the land of another within 500 feet of any dwelling or building in use, except as authorized by the owner or occupant thereof, is prohibited.

Massachusetts gun law requires that when a gun is not under direct control it must be stored or kept in a locked container or equipped with a tamper resistant mechanical lock. For hunting or target shooting, resident citizens fifteen years old and over must have a Firearms Identification (FID) card to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun, or a License to Carry to possess a rifle, shotgun, or handgun. The FID card is not needed by bow hunters or by twelve-to-fourteen-

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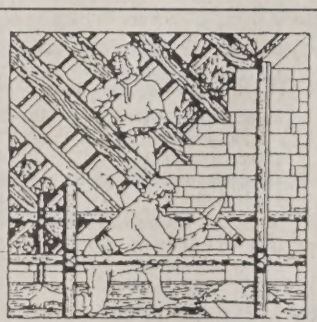

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year-olds hunting with a duly licensed adult. A person must be twenty-one years old or older to obtain a License to Carry. An FID card is not needed to purchase or possess primitive firearms, but an FID or License to Carry is needed to purchase black powder or any other ammunition. An FID or License to Carry may be obtained by contacting your local police department. License sales outlets may sell a hunting license only after seeing proof of a previous year's hunting license, a certificate of completion of a hunter education course, a valid FID or a License to Carry.

The possession, or use on any game, of rifles, handguns, or dogs in any woodland, field, or highway is prohibited during the shotgun deer season. (The only exception is that dogs may be used for hunting waterfowl on coastal waters.)

In addition to a hunting license, a permit is required to harvest antlerless deer. Applications for the permit had to be submitted by August 15; selection is by random drawing. The seasonal bag limit is two antlered deer or one antlered and one antlerless deer, all seasons combined. An antlered deer is any deer with at least one antler three inches long measured on a straight line from the center of the front base of the antler burr to the tip. Immediately upon killing a deer and prior to moving it, during any deer season, the tag portion must be separated from the license or deer permit, filled out, and attached to the deer in a conspicuous manner. The deer must then be taken to an official checking station by the person who killed it within forty-eight hours, for validation by a Division of Fisheries and Wildlife representative. There the paper tag will be collected and a metal tag affixed, which constitutes the official report of kill as required by law. (Where have you gone, Davy Crocket?)

A note of interest is that road-killed deer may be kept by a Massachusetts driver or passenger of the vehicle killing the deer, if reported to Law Enforcement at 1-800-632-8075 immediately and then tagged at the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife or at a Division of Law Enforcement office within twenty-four hours and a free permit issued.

An incomplete list of other hunting seasons (but never on Sunday) that may be of interest are:

- Crow: Jul. 1–Apr. 10, 2001 (only on Friday, Saturday, Monday)
- Turkey: Oct. 30–Nov. 4
- Black Bear: Nov. 20–25
- Cottontail Rabbit: Oct. 14–Feb. 28
- Coyote: Nov. 1–Feb. 28
- Fox (red or gray): Nov. 1–Feb 28
- Gray Squirrel: Sept. 11–Jan. 2
- Opossum: Oct. 2–Jan 31
- Raccoon: Oct. 2–Jan 31

See *Mass Wildlife: Abstracts of the 2000 Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife Laws* for the regulations and required permits. All hunting seasons except waterfowl are closed during deer shotgun season, November 27 through December 9.

The following species may be taken by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrows, starlings, chipmunk, flying squirrel, red squirrel, weasel, porcupine, skunk, woodchuck. The Monterey mountain lion seems to be safe, since it is never in season. But maybe we should cut the poor snapping turtle some slack — according to the *Abstracts*, open season on it is from January 1 through December 31.

And finally, here's another view of hunting season contributed by Avis B. Jones of Salisbury, Connecticut (mother of Town Secretary Bonnie Jurgenson):

A hundred years or so ago when
wilderness was here,
the man with powder in his gun went
out to hunt the deer.
But now the wilderness is gone, there
is a different plan,
the dear with powder on her nose,
goes out to hunt the man.

— Will Marsh

New Saturday Hours for Post Ofice

Effective November 18, Saturday hours for the Monterey Post Office will be 9:00 a.m to 12:00 noon. Please note that the closing time will be one hour earlier than it has been. (The decision was made in Springfield, so don't blame Walter.)

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Construction and Demolition Waste Management Fact Sheet

A new fact sheet is now available from the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) to help boost the reuse and recycling of construction and demolition (C&D) waste in Berkshire County.

"C&D Reuse & Recycling in Berkshire County" was created by CET in response to the increasing volume of this waste that may have the potential to be reused or recycled instead of ending up in a landfill. In Massachusetts alone, over four million tons were generated in 1998, up from 2.5 million tons in 1994. The Department of Environmental Protection's 2000 Solid Waste Master Plan, which outlines goals for handling the State's entire solid waste stream, includes some ambitious objectives for the future of C&D waste. The proposal to ban the disposal of unprocessed C&D waste beginning 2003 may be the most challenging. The state also plans to explore changes in permitting of state and local C&D projects, promote new processing facilities and new end-use markets for processed materials, and work with the design and construction industry to promote better design for recycling.

Local groups like CET can serve as a resource for businesses that are seeking alternative management methods. The fact sheet may help contractors, businesses, and municipalities conduct business in a manner that is both environmentally and economically preferable. The fact sheet contains local markets for building materials reuse and exchange services and facilities, haulers, processors, and potential end-uses for C&D debris. The fact sheet also includes a list of C&D debris recycling resources (publications, organizations and websites).

For a free copy of the fact sheet and a sample waste management and recycling bid specification for new construction, contact Joy Kirschenbaum at CET at (413) 445-4556, 1-800-238-1221 or joyk@cetonline.org. CET is a nonprofit energy/resource conservation and solid waste management organization.

Rep Rap

Last month I testified before the state Division of Insurance in opposition to the 2.5 percent increase in auto insurance rates as proposed by the Automobile Insurers Bureau of Massachusetts. This proposed rate increase adds up to $25 per driver. The average driver already pays almost $1,000 a year to insure a car in Massachusetts. Now $25 dollars a year may not seem like a lot of money to some people, but the rate hike is not warranted due to the fact that the industry based its proposal on some outlandish claims.

The insurance industry asked for the increase because they claim repair shops owners are barely scraping by on the rates paid by the insurance companies. However, we don't need higher premiums to pay those wages. Insurance companies could pay those higher wages because they are not controlled by state cost containment measures and particularly because the amount insurers are paying in claims has decreased.

In the last few years we have taken important steps to protect consumers rights to fair and adequate auto insurance, and it is important not to backslide on this progress. From 1992 to 1996 overpayments of $150 million were made by consumers due to miscalculations of rate formulas by the insurance industry. Those overpayments were refunded to drivers through a three-year reduction of premiums. Last year the insurance industry asked for a 7.8% increase and was granted a .7 percent increase.

We have continued to hold the line against auto insurance rate increases as Massachusetts's drivers face some of the highest premiums in the country. The state Rating Bureau, the actuarial arm of the Division of Insurance, has reviewed the facts in the current rate request hearings and has recommended a 14% reduction in auto insurance rates for 2001. If approved this would translate into an average decrease of $133 per vehicle. The Insurance Commissioner must issue a decision on the case by December 15, 2000. It appears that the facts are on the consumers' side, and we eagerly await a decision on this matter.

As always please feel free to contact my full-time district office with any questions or concerns at 243-0289.

— Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins

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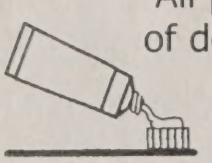

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Senator Says

A number of constituents have contacted me over the years for assistance in sorting out questions and problems with their pensions. This month's column provides information that can help you to prevent or solve pension problems, or to create an income stream during your retirement.

The Social Security system is designed to provide a minimum foundation of protection for retired workers. Many of us do not realize, however, that a comfortable pension depends on "buying" your own retirement. In fact, the Department of Labor points out that retirement is probably the most expensive thing you will buy in your lifetime and that today's workers will probably have to pay for more of their own retirement than earlier generations. With this in mind, there is no time like the present to put some serious thought into retirement planning.

Retirement Savings Education Campaign: In 1995, the Department of Labor launched its Retirement Education Campaign, encouraging Americans to plan their finances in order to meet retirement goals as well as other financial goals. The web site for this federal agency offers a guidebook called "Savings Fitness: A Guide to Your Money and Your Financial Future." This guide poses questions, explains terms and suggests steps you and your family can take to plan your retirement savings.

You might start your thinking about a retirement strategy by asking coworkers or family members what they are doing to save and invest. Pick up a brochure about Individual Retirement Accounts from your bank. If you work for a business that offers retirement benefits, become familiar with the documentation explaining your pension contributions, future benefits, and any optional retirement savings programs (such as 401[k]) available through your employer. If you don't know the meaning of terms like vesting, defined contribution, defined benefit, or survivor benefit, do a little homework to find out. Ask the same questions about your spouse's pension plan, and keep paperwork documenting your pension status organized and stored in a safe place.

Pension Action: At the University of Massachusetts, there is a Pension Action Center that is active in a number of pension-related initiatives, including providing assistance to individuals having trouble understanding or obtaining their pension benefits. Resources, including useful publications such as "Questions and Answers about Pension Rights," are available on the Internet at www.pensionaction.org.

Federal Organizations: Other information for future retirees is available on websites sponsored by the Pension Welfare Benefits Administration (PWBA) and the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (PBGC). The former group posts useful publications such as "A Look at 401(k) Plan Fees" for both employers and employees, and "Top 10 Ways to Save and Prepare for Retirement." On your home computer or at a library with Internet access, go to www.dol.gov/dol/pwba for more information.

The PBGC has a user-friendly information service that allows workers to search for a "lost" pension: benefits owed by companies that have gone out of business. PBGC is a central clearing house for information on funds being held for people who have not filed for the benefits to which they are entitled. You can type in your last name, company name or state to find whether you or a family member is on the list. The website is www.pbgc.gov.

Start Today! Make use of the free publications mentioned above, hire a financial planner, talk to the benefits administrator at your workplace, or set up an automatic deduction from your payroll or checking account to build an IRA. There are many ways to be smart about your retirement, but the initiative must come from you.

— Senator Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr.

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green and gold september light is a wistful gaze
over the shoulder backwards at youth
so beautiful no tears fall columns of white flies
burning instinct mind the light sweet
corn, whitepeaches and oh tomatoes still
the breeze is still a breeze but because we know
bears a fateful kiss of melancholia of heydays
faded and cast

— Peter Shepley

So Faint the Trail

So faint the trail, we strain to find our way;
past keeling birch, through thickening brush,
traversing early-morning woods. A hush —
that's broken only by our footsteps' sound.
Momentum lost, we cross uneven ground.

There looms ahead a hill we'll have to climb.
Between tall trees the early sunlight glows
off burnished bark, lights up the lifting haze.
Alert with fear, a nearby fawn stops, listens;
upon its dawn-chilled coat the sun's rays glisten.

Our passage slow, dim memory is our guide.
To follow instinct probably is right;
with luck, our destination we'll soon sight.
In silence now, we trek to start the day.
So faint the trail, we strain to find our way.

— Edwin Schur

ad for anything

are we all just destined for the cleaver
of cruel cancer?
or the aspirations of assassins
in their search for happiness?
far from it!
there are odes for every season
ouds for every note
ads for anything
and everyone of us is odd
madame violetta comes to visit
from some distorted universe
senior cyclops stands stoutly
watching for anything that wiggles
the front of the book is
painted in bird droppings
the back of the book is
designed by young prophets
after the feast of Saint Green
the daughters will wash the dishes
the sons will plow the fields
the cry of the newborn
will come from a chevron
flying high overhead
high above our stagnant dreams
sunflowers by the garden gate
proud and proving
anything is possible
turning softly with the sun
yet far from it

— R. Zukowski

The Bartender

Bacchus makes the transition
from wineskins to bottles
all things considered
his black hair curls and glistens as of old
but his bowtie and red brass-buttoned vest
do not really become him.
Constrained and perspiring slightly
he wipes the bar snd sighs:
City people!
Wine, for instance, should be drunk at sunset
in soft air, out of doors
to the lucky tune of plucked strings
and the glass held up to the dying sun
to catch its fire in the glowing crimsons of the grape
the sea fine and blue far off
each savory swallow
should be followed by a glorious thought of friendship
of increscent foot-tapping dance
or a silky naked shoulder under idly stroking fingers
with rosy joys to come

Grapes should be bunched and blessed and burst
for promise
mmmmmmmmm! mmmmmmm! mmmmmmm!
he kisses his fingertips
which have just filled an ice bucket
feeling grapes, nibbling grapes
dreaming, as well, the grapeleaves
curled around hot spiced rice
currants and cinnamon
Ah! the round little breasts of young girls
glimpsed through the wine
beautiful! beautiful!
or kissing the flushed globes of sweet apples
and plums like nipples, all the juices and rivulets
dribbling
of good dreams under an olive tree
with maidens bringing white exposed cheeses
round and mellow
perfect with the wine!
cool, with fish, lemon and fresh parsley
white wine, green-gold, dusted and dry
with fragrance
mmmmmmmmm! mmmmmmm! mmmmmmmm!
Now, for the red - wet smacking happy kisses
of plump mothers full of laughter
with warm gurglings of appreciation
as they dance slowly swaying the melons
la-la! la-la! la-la!
top and bottom
aaaaaaaaaaa! mmmmmmmmm! aaaaaaaaah!
fiery, rosy, ruby, tongue-wafting, flowing, sluicing
rivers of joy
clear sweet sips of the living gods!

Bacchus leans on the bar, wistfully smiling
out over the maroon curtains on their brass rings
to the grey afternoon haze of the city street -
a harsh voice interrupts:
"Double on the rocks. Hey, and hurry up, man,
I gotta plane to catch!"

— A. O. Howell
1970

Autumn, Prelude to Winter

Into the elm tree tall he flew
Among the golden leaves of fall,
A blue jay bold in his coat of blue,
Sending afar his loud, shrill call.
A frisky squirrel some nuts has found
And stored them away for his winter's meat,
While rustling corn shocks crisp and brown
Guard pumpkins nestled at their feet.

— Eleanor Kimberley

Monterey: A Place in Time
Part 1

Michele Miller wrote a history of Monterey from the perspective of cultural geography for a class at Simon's Rock College. Her essay will be serialized in the next few issues of the News.

I remember very well the first time I came to Monterey. The feeling was of arriving in a seacoast town, dipping down into a cove, and seeing the church and older houses rising up on the opposite hill. I thought it lovely. I didn't know then that it would be my home.

In 1978, my husband and I bought twenty acres of land in Monterey. Although I was in my middle twenties when we wed and built our home there, in a sense that is where I grew up. The land is located on the north side of Dry Hill, an area that was annexed from New Marlborough around 1850. It is mostly wetland on a little plateau at about 1300 ft. elevation, as though a rocky basin had filled with dirt. A map of 1876 marks the farm of F. Hall. A crumbling foundation snug against the road indicates the barn, and a small cellar hole across the road was a house. A dug well about six feet deep to the ledge and crumbling rock walls are the only other clues. At first our only access was to walk the three-quarters of a mile up the dirt track. Once the stage road to New Marlborough, with telegraph poles running alongside, it was more recently a rutted logging road. As we negotiated with the town to reopen it, we began selectively clearing trees and brush for a homesite.

First we built a little cabin out of sapling poles, with a tin roof. We had no electricity or running water, but kerosene lamps and a bucket for the well. In June we began work on a one-room timber-framed house. We worked without electricity, splitting shingles from pine, using a mortising machine, chisels and neighbors. It was 25°F inside the house when we moved in on Christmas Eve. Our idea was self-sufficiency and independence.

We raised pigs and chased raccoons out of the chicken yard in the middle of the night. I grew peas, bathed under the stars, and drew logs with a horse. I knew how to take the insides out of a chicken, butcher a pig and put up gallons of peaches. We got our milk in a pail down at the farm. After five years, the opportunity to bring in power at half the cost came along; we didn't agonize very long over the decision.

Our house has grown, and our family. My husband built a water-powered shop, where he makes furniture. We have two small fields and I would happily cut trees in any direction for more light and space. There are eight other houses on Harmon Road, and another just going up. The first was the hardest to accept. Sometimes after I've been to New York, I sit on the porch step and imagine a skyscraper filled with people would fit in my meadow. It puts things in perspective.

Until I began this project, I felt I knew this place. I hardly walk my own roads, never mind the ones on the other side of the lake. Now I must picture the many layers that time has made here.

This is my home, the place I never really leave. This is not a piece of real estate, it's my country. My son has lived here all of his eleven years and says he'll never leave. I think it more likely that he will return.

This home of ours is in a town, and the experiences we've shared with the people in the town form a strong background of comfort and memories. There are times we are happy to leave for a little anonymity.

We've seen the turkeys and beavers return. Fewer hunters come to take the deer, and I've learned at first hand that bears are not cute. We welcome seasons, looking for familiar plants, the order of the trees leafing, the changes in the light and the habits of the wild. Winter isn't what it was, nor is mud season.

I feel incredibly lucky to call this place my home.

Monterey is a town of almost a thousand inhabitants located on the Konkapot River in the Housatonic watershed of Berkshire County in the state of Massachusetts, USA. Today the town boundaries follow the highest elevations of the mountains to the north and south and to plateau edges in the east and west (Mount Wilcox, 2,113 ft elevation; Mt. Hunger, 1821 ft.; Chestnut Hill, 1830 ft.; Dry Hill and Livermore Peak, 1800 ft.).

Over six hundred million years ago during the Precambrian era, the fundamental rock type underlying the Berkshires, gneiss, was formed. Subsequent geologic events compressed this gneiss, rendering it extremely resistant to erosion, /

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while forming other rock types which were less resistant. These later formations include quartzites, limestone, marble, and schist. Some contain evidence of marine life, indicating that at one time the Atlantic Ocean may have covered this region. More recent geologic events caused the formation of the Berkshire Hills through extensive folding, tilting and faulting. Mount Wilcox, Chestnut Hill, Mt. Hunger and Dry Hill are the cores remaining of this original gneiss, their lower elevations eroded to expose Stockbridge marble.

George Emmons

During the last ice age, the Pleistocene, glaciers moved across the continent. The last of these glaciers, the Woodfordian, scraped away accumulated vegetation. As the glacier melted, the soil and rock trapped within it were distributed over the land, either by water running through and over the glacier, stratified drift deposits, or unstratified deposits left behind as the ice retreated. The unstratified deposits tend to be very compact and do not absorb water, making them less suitable for well drilling or subsurface sewage disposal. Stratified deposits and more recent accumulations of alluvium are ideal for the absorption, purification, and storage of water. The very different characteristics and the location of these deposits have had implications throughout the history of the region that became Monterey. Over 90 percent of the soils in Monterey are "till" formed from unstratified deposits, with hardpan or bedrock within five feet of the surface or having a high water table for a good part of the year. (In 1978, Shel Fenn described his experiences with this hardpan on the Barnum Flats south of Route 23 from a farmer's perspective. He postulates that as Barnum Flats is now, so Lakes Garfield and Buel will be. See *Monterey: A Local History.*) Two bodies of water, fed by numerous springs and streams, lie over a formation of Stockbridge marble which extends the length of the Konkapot Valley. Both of these are in a naturally eutrophic state, exaggerated by the population density in that area.

During the 13,000 years that elapsed since the final melting of the glacier, the vegetation evolved from tundra flora to coniferous forest and then mixed coniferous and deciduous forest. When the region was first explored by Europeans three hundred years ago, northern hardwoods dominated the landscape.

The thick forest which developed over the rich, rough terrain "teemed with creatures man has known, including the vanished heath hen, passenger pigeon and wild turkey" (from *The Story of Western Massachusetts*, 1949, available in the Great Barrington Library). Even native populations found it rough going and did not establish themselves until Mahicans were driven from the more accessible Hudson Valley by the Dutch. A report of travelers in 1662 describes a crude cartway running between Westfield and Sheffield, two well-established towns. The twenty-mile-wide tract of impassable forest between Blandford and Monterey were known as the "Greenwoods."

In 1694, two indigenous groups were known to reside in the northern Housetenuck Valley, numbering no more than three hundred. One group lived at Skatekook, just south of present-day Stockbridge, under Chief Konkapot and another at Wnahtukook, north of Sheffield, under Chief Umpachene.

These people lived by hunting, fishing, and "crude agriculture." In fact, their varied diet included wild edibles, nuts,

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herbs, wild onions, and fruit, as well as cultivated corn, beans, and squash. In the autumn, they routinely burned the underbrush of the forest to clear the view for hunting and to fertilize the soil. In the spring they tapped the maple tree for its sweet sap. Beans baked in a pit with sap and bear fat, fish smoked on a slab of alderwood, or pumpkin or potato soup might have been on the menu in these settlements. The people lived in wigwams or bark-covered lodges. In the winter they used snowshoes to get from place to place. Some of these native ways were integrated into the colonial culture. As European diseases such as chicken pox and smallpox diffused into the native population, they destroyed the traditional tribal order. Increasingly the natives relied on hunting to establish their status in the tribe through trade for wampum as well as for the cloth, tools, and spirits they wanted. Few Mahicans remained in 1724, when Konkapot and others deeded the District of Housatonic over to the Province of Massachusetts. They did not leave the area as a group until 1784, when they joined the Oneidas in northern New York State.

— Michele Miller

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Clever as a Crow

Our familiar crows are members of a bird family called Corvidae which includes the ravens and jays we see hereabouts, as well as western U.S. cousins like the magpie, camp robber (grey jay), Clark's nutcracker, scrub jay and pinyon jay. In Europe there are jackdaws and jays, also fish crows, and in Scandinavia and Siberia, the Siberian jay with its spectacular orange underparts, making it look always as if it were sitting above a sunset sky.

The corvids are certainly known for their good looks, but as if this were not enough, they are also smart. Animal intelligence has been a lively field of study for a long time, usually marked by the scientists' species-centric tendency to measure all creatures by human standards: People are the smartest; dolphins may be pretty nearly as smart as people; dogs are smarter than horses but not as smart as us. Fortunately, our understanding of animal behavior, including our own, has in recent times shaken loose from this vertical model.

We still like to measure some things: we find that of all the birds studied so far (you know what we have to do to get this figure ...), the corvids have the largest cerebral cavity-to-body-size ratio. Next come the parrots. This means that the crows have big brains, like us. We'd like to conclude just from this that they are smart like us, or maybe that we are smart like them, but it takes more than a pair of calipers to tell the tale of the clever crow.

Remember the story from Aesop's Fables? The crow was given a pitcher of water to drink, but the pitcher was not full. Way down in the tall vessel there was a cup or so of water. Nothing daunted, the crow flew off repeatedly to carry small stones to the pitcher. These she dropped in until the water level was raised up to the top; then she drank. There was a moral to the tale, and as kids we learned that these tales were not meant to be taken literally — Aesop just chose likely animal characters to "people" his moralistic tales.

As it turns out, this story of the crow may well be taken literally. Here are a few more recent accounts of crow ingenuity. In Finland, crows hang around the people who are ice-fishing. If the people are distracted when they get a bite, maybe sitting in their fishing shacks having a sandwich, a crow will walk over to the hole in the ice, grab the line in its beak, and back away some distance, hauling up the fish a ways. Then it will walk forward again to the hole, stepping firmly on the line all the time so it will not slip back down. It takes a fresh purchase on the line

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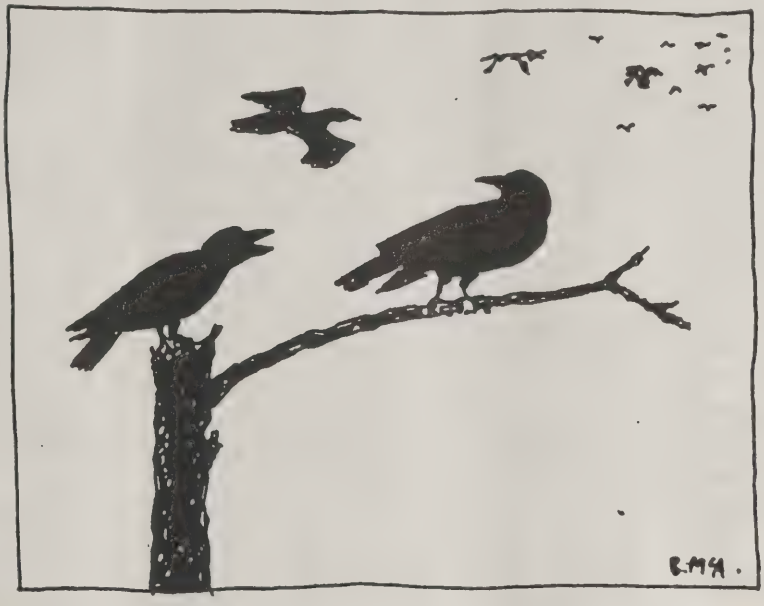
and backs away again, repeating this pattern until the fish is pulled up onto the ice. Then it will eat the fish. (You have to imagine the fisherfolk of Finland packing large, distracting sandwiches.) In England a pet crow learned to pick up the end of a leash and take a spaniel for a walk. Another learned to say "Fred," "Come on, Jack," "father," "mother," "Hello, Joe," "Now you've done it," and "Ah, go on." Other stories of the accomplishments of pet crows include imitating the barking of a dog and a man's laugh. One gave the clucking noise a rooster makes when calling the hens to receive some morsel or treat. The hens ran to the crow.



There are plenty of accounts of crows imitating gull behavior along the shore. They will fly up high over rocks and drop clams or mussels to break them open. Another crow in a southern state dropped palm nuts on the street and waited for a car to break them open.

As if this were not enough, we have the statistical studies of cache retrieval pointing to crows' ability to fix locations using landmarks so as to be able to come back and find nuts and acorns they had buried under the ground, even after the site was covered by snow. Then we find that crows can work together to perform acts of kindness or even daring rescues. Crows cannot swim, but when one fell into the Merrimac River and was drowning, others in a flock came along and took turns, one by one, dragging their submerged comrade to land. When it reached the shore, it was able to shake itself and fly off. I find all these accounts thrilling — maybe because I am as egocentric as any scientist and love it when a crow reminds me of me, or of the me I'd like to be (if only I could fly . . .).

But here are two last tidbits in case you are not yet hooked on crows. Crows are playful: a crow was observed sitting on a wire. Then it flipped over and hung upside down by its feet, then let go with one foot and swung by the other. Then it switched feet, and switched back again. (This is the kind of thing I do all the time, how about you?)

Here is the story that excites the scientists. Crows are tool designers and tool users. A New Zealand scientist watched crows making two different kinds of tools. The "hooked-twig tool" was made by snipping off a twig with part of its main branch attached, forming a hook, then stripping off the bark and leaves to make the whole thing smooth. This was used for hooking insects out of holes and crevices. The "stepped-cut tool" was made from a narrow pandanus leaf. Half the leaf was stripped away, along the midrib. The other half was carefully cut as the crow took successively deeper bites along the leaf, leaving a stepped or graduatedly serrated edge. This also was used for probing out insects, but was held differently from the first tool.

In this story, crows from several different populations were observed making these same two kinds of tools. The tools were valued, saved, carried from one place to another. These accomplishments, or characteristics, were not seen in developing human intelligence until the Lower Paleolithic: 1. a high degree of standardization; 2. distinctly discrete tool types with definite imposition of form in tool shaping; and 3. use of hooks. Who knows where the crows will go from here? We see what has become of us, and we should hesitate to call it "advancement," I think. We might do well to look closely at Aesop's crow and move toward swinging from wires and the use of hooks. Maybe flying would be next.

— Bonner J. McAllester

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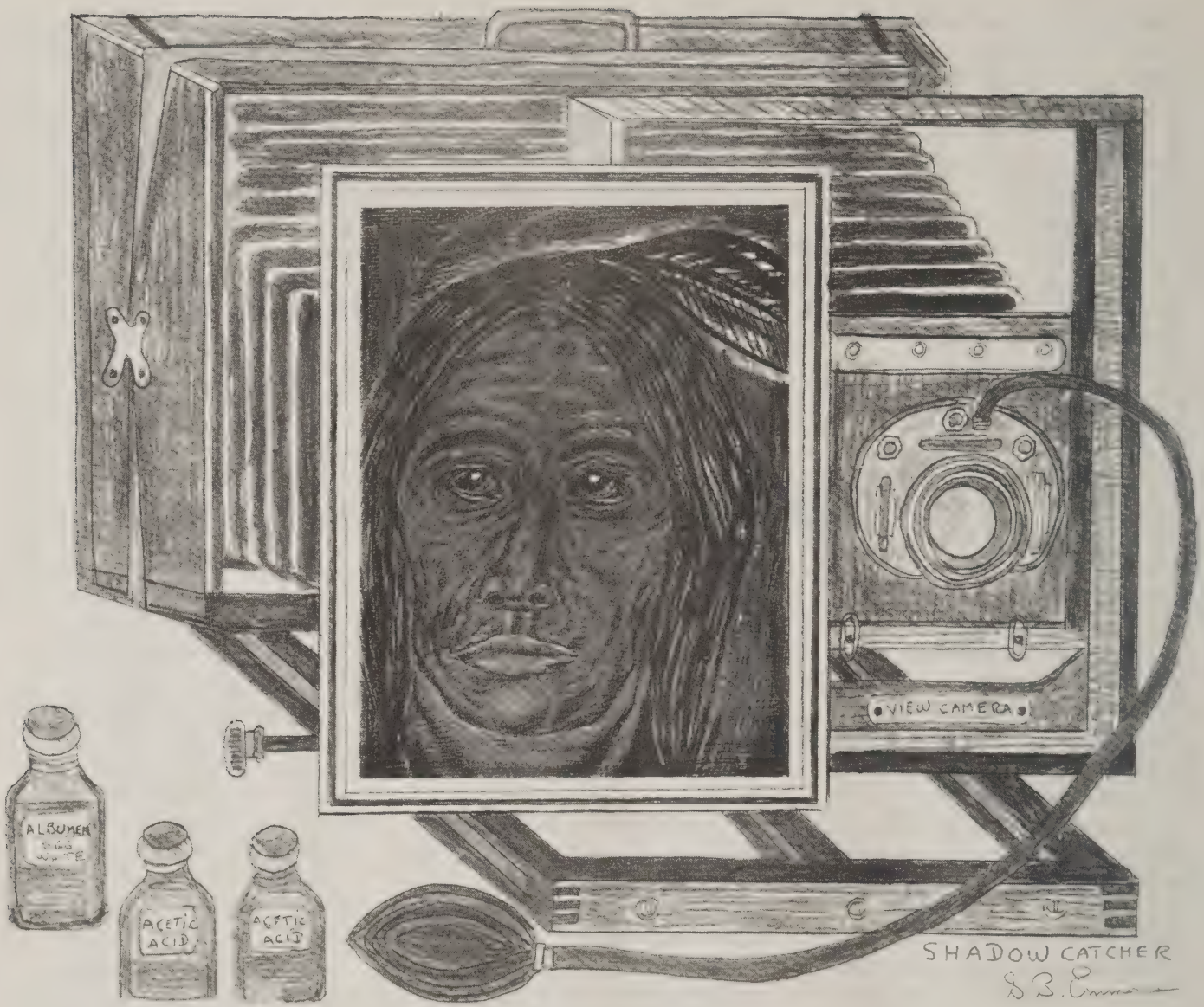

The Shadow Catcher

If you are interested in photography, you may be aware that the printing of pictures in sheer numbers this year will reach a new national record. Home computers alone will produce about five billion digital photos using privately owned ink-type printers. Let's not lose sight of the fact that photography, which has developed into a modern miracle with as many as fifty million people watching a presidential debate, had modest and humble beginnings in the nineteenth century.

In the year of 1847, when Monterey was established as an official township (James K. Polk was president and his likeness may not be a clear image to any of us), the technology to take a picture had been in place for some forty years, but was used as what was called a "camera obscura" to cast an image of its subject on a screen or wall to be traced as a sketch.

In the early 1800s, Lewis and Clarke had embarked on the greatest and most significant outdoor adventure of western exploration with no cameras. Today that would be like leaving your credit cards behind. Fortunately talented artists such as George Catlin were able to put down on canvas glimpses of the panoramas as they went up the Missouri Rivers and beyond: Mandan Indians, grizzly bears, over the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific coast, and back again.

Sixteen years and four presidents after 1847, some seventy men from the relatively new township of Monterey

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went to take part in another great national event, the Civil War; today their names are etched in history and on the stone memorial in Veteran's Park. As a sign of the times, photographs of Abraham Lincoln began to overshadow presidential portraits in the public eye. A certain Matthew Brady had also mastered the effective use of applications on wet plates to record the grim carnage of battlefields, and the power of a picture of bloody warfare came home along with those that survived.

Photographic documentaries continued after the war, as the West was won, or lost, depending upon which side you were on. William Henry Jackson was a pioneer in using chemically treated dry plates and a camera with a sliding base that helped to focus the lens. He proceeded to get as much as he could on tape, as they say today. Whatever he might have missed, he was followed by Edward Sheriff Curtis, who eventually took no less than 40,000 pictures of a vanishing race of Native Americans.

Indians did not always like to have their pictures taken, like people all over the world that we might call superstitious. If you have ever taken your camera to other countries, you know such people want something in return, because they feel something of their spirit is being taken away. Native Americans also had their own names for the white man's inventions, which expressed their sense of wonder but also their very profound ability for descriptive analysis of function. For example, below are a few catch words, much like the name "Dances With Wolves," which the popular Orion Picture star Kevin Costner was called in the movie by the same name:

What they saw	What they called it
Camera	Shadow Catcher
Cannon	Wagon Gun
Steam Locomotive	Iron Horse
Whisky	Fire Water
Rifle	Thunder Stick
Telegraph Line	Talking Wire

In 1876, when Tryon's Hotel stood in the center of Monterey on what is now Main Road, affording travelers a warm welcome and the comforts of home, out west native hospitality was wearing thin. Some visitors were taking pictures, but others were taking land. Ulysses S. Grant was president, and his youngest most daring Union General, George Armstrong Custer rode into the record book by trying with some 700 men to disperse a larger gathering of Indians, 15,000 strong, camped along the Little Big Horn River.

Not to be confused with a camera, a dream catcher is a Native American round wooden hoop, strung with a spider web-like configuration, hung near a sleeper to retrieve a dream upon awakening. The Sioux medicine man Sitting Bull predicted Custer's demise, not because he knew he had graduated last in his class at West Point, but because he had a dream prior to the attack, which he illustrated in primitive figures on a buffalo skin. It showed bluecoat soldiers and their horses falling upside down out of the sky into the huge village. The Sioux war chief who subsequently led the Indian charge over Custer's position never had his picture taken, perhaps because he was superstitious, and perhaps because from that time he was a wanted man. His name was Crazy Horse, from a dream he had about his horse.

With the November issue of the *Monterey News*, until after perhaps more than 150 million viewers will watch prime-time election returns, it is impossible to predict who will be the new president. But the *News* will as always contain some contributions of outstanding photography, for which it has an excellent reputation. And it has been said that these pictures capture the true spirit of Monterey and its people. So we are all blessed, and in a few weeks can give thanks for all the modern miracles that make us healthier, wiser, happier, particularly so we can even see ouselves as others do. Happy Thanksgiving!

— George Emmons

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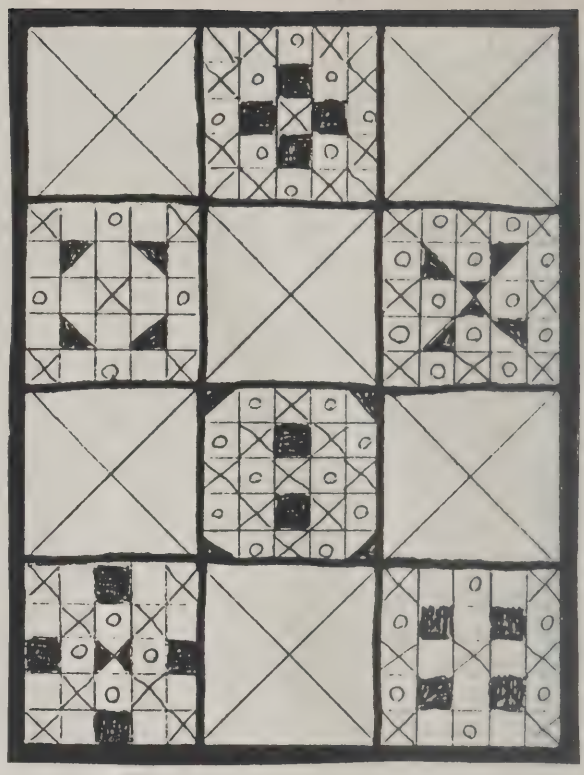
First Call for Old Baystate Quilts

If it's not in the spare room, or over the back of a sofa, maybe somewhere in the back of your mind you recall an old quilt somewhere in the back of your attic. If so, we may be looking for you!

"We" refers to the folks, statewide, who are involved with the *Mass Quilts* project. The project's goal is to document 3,000 quilts made in or brought to Massachusetts fifty or more years ago. Each quilt will be photographed, and an oral history will be recorded. You'll get a photo of your quilt and a copy of the recorded documentation as well.

Some of histories may be extensive: "My mother made this quilt for my brother Fred, when the family moved here in 1939. All the blue fabrics came from clothes we wore. That was my summer skirt she made me in 1935; here's a bit of mom's bib apron, and the whites were from Grandpa Smith's best shirts. Oh, and here are the receipts for the shirts; Mom kept everything."

Others will be rather sketchy: "My grandmother said her sister brought this quilt to Berkshire County sometime in the 1940s," or, "I bought it at a tag sale in 1985, and the woman said her aunt made this quilt in Sandisfield, or maybe Feeding Hills, one or the other, sometime during World War I, or II." Both kinds of oral histories are welcome, so don't hang back just because you may not know much about the quilt yourself. The quilt experts doing the documenting may give you some interesting factual information to go with whatever tale you already know.



Once the documentation project is finished, not only will the information be available to anyone doing research, but a book is planned as well. It will highlight a number of the quilts.

"We," locally, are the Berkshire Quilt Guild. We've volunteered to sponsor a quilt documentation day, so that the project will be easily available to those of us way out here in the southern corner of Massachusetts' westernmost county. Although we are just beginning our plans, the documentation will probably take place in Sheffield, and will most likely be held on a Saturday next April.

That may sound like a long time away, but April will be here in only five months. A maximum of thirty-six quilts can be seen on any given documentation day, and we are already certain of thirteen, so it isn't too early to give me a call to put your name and your quilt on the to-be-seen list (528-5557).

Again, it must be a Massachusetts vintage quilt, one made, or brought, here at least fifty years ago. The documentation fee will be only $5 per quilt.

If you have such an heirloom, and want to participate in documenting a bit of Bay State history, let me know!

— MaryKate Jordan

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Personal Notes

Birthday greetings this month go to **Sudi Baker** and **Heather Ferrin** on the 2nd, **Emily McTavish** on the 8th and **Rebecca McTavish** on the 9th, **Andi Dunlop** on the 11th, **Mariah Olds** and **Kenny Pratt** on the 12th, **Cody Amstead** on the 18th, **Jenny Brown** and **Kirsten Quisenberry** on the 25th, **Kerry Snyder** on the 26th and **Nicole Amidon** on the 28th.

Wish **Nick and Betty Wool** a Happy Silver (25th!) Anniversary on the 1st. **Barbara Bonner and Maurice Stiefel** celebrate their anniversary on the 25th.

Michelle Grotz, a fourth-year medical student at Columbia University's College of Physicians & Surgeons, just received word that she has been elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical school equivalent to Phi Beta Kappa. Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) is the only national honor medical society in the world. Its mission is to recognize and perpetuate excellence in the medical profession. The Greeks letters stand for its motto: "Worthy to serve the Suffering." To be eligible, the student must have excelled academically and shown promise of becoming a leader in the medical profession. Academic achievement is the primary but not the only basis for election: the student must rank in the top one-sixth of his/her class, and have demonstrated leadership, fairness in dealing with colleagues, compassion, integrity, and community service throughout medical school, based on faculty evaluations and personal attainments. Election to AOA is a distinction that accompanies a physician through his or her career. When Michelle called home to share the news with her parents, even the normally self-effacing budding physician had trouble downplaying her achievement: She said, "I've never been into grades or honors or that sort of stuff, but, Mom and Dad, this is a *big* deal!" Congratulations, Mitch!

Greetings to **Leslie Bardo** who recently moved with her dog **Cooper** to Minneapolis to pursue a teaching career. She has just completed a season interning at Rawson Brook Farm and before that a year at Gould Farm as a volunteer. She also played the piano at the service at the Monterey Meetinghouse each week. We will miss her contribution to the community and on the farm. We wish you well, Leslie.

A note from the editor of the *Monterey News* circa **1970:** It is necessary at this time to seek further consideration from you if the newspaper is to continue. There are, as you know, expenses involved in the printing and distribution of the paper, and inasmuch as the limited subsidy is inadequate to underwrite the costs of production, we find it necessary to ask for a donation to help defray the costs incurred, if you will be so kind. . . .

1980: David Hellman of Fairview Road was admitted to the Massachusetts bar on October 22. His law practice was formerly in Brooklyn.

1990: Hats off to Douglas Brown who received his private pilot's license on September 15. We're happy to see that Douglas has recovered quickly from his recent emergency appendectomy also. Good news all around.

Help me update the birthday/anniversary list. Add your name by dropping me a note at POB 21 or calling 528-1871. Thanks.

— Deborah Mielke

Eleanor Kimberley

Local Artist Wins National Award

Lois Ryder, scratchboard artist of Monterey, has received the Robb Sagendorph Memorial Award during the Fall Member Show at the Copley Society of Boston. This award, established by *Yankee Magazine*, seeks to recognize outstanding artistic achievement in the realist tradition. Along with a monetary award, the work titled *Pathways* will be reproduced in the March issue of *Yankee Magazine.* Done in scratchboard and colored inks, *Pathways,* depicts Cape Cod dunes, fencing, and flora.

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Remembering Marion Thomson

Marion F. Thomson, 80, of Oak Glen Farm died Wednesday, October 11, at home.

Born in Monterey on December 28, 1919, daughter of Jared B. and Beulah E. Hyde Thomson, she attended Monterey schools and was a 1938 graduate of the former Searles High School in Great Barrington. She also graduated from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

She was employed by the Sleighton Farm School for Girls in Pennsylvania for a short time before returning to Oak Glen Farm, a fourth-generation family farm.

She was a member of the Monterey Congregational Church for many years before becoming a Jehovah's Witness. She was also a member of the Great Barrington Camera Club and a fifty-year member of the Monterey Grange. She enjoyed farming and flower gardening.

She leaves two sons, Warren Thomson and Lyman Thomson, both of Monterey; a sister, Lois Bull of Norfolk, Conn.; and three grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held at the Great Barrington Kingdom Hall on Monday, October 16. Donations may be made to the Great Barrington Kingdom Hall, to the Monterey Fire Department, or to Hospice Care in the Berkshires, in care of the Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home, 426 Main St., Great Barrington, MA 01230. Remembrances, memories, and reflections for the Thomson family may also be sent to finnfh@bcn.net.

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Transfer Station Winter Hours

Sunday.... 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Wednesday.... 8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday ..... 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Lake Garfield Association Eco Tip for November

The water's down,
it's time to rake
The weeds that grow
on the bottom of the lake.
And lost shoes, old tires
and other debris
Can be removed
most easily.

Contributors

In reading the "Personal Notes" this month we see that in its shaky early days in 1970, the editor of this paper made an appeal to readers for financial help. Well, here we are thirty years later and going strong, thanks to you, dear reader. This month we thank the following people for their recent contributions:

Edward and Wayne Dunlop
Robert & Nancy Johnson
Jeanne Randorf
Alphonse & Barbara Antico
Jason Brown & Nicky Hearon
William & Joyce Pasco
Sally Emmel
Joann Elam
Dorothy Kurz
Gary & Colta Ives

Hear ye, hear ye!

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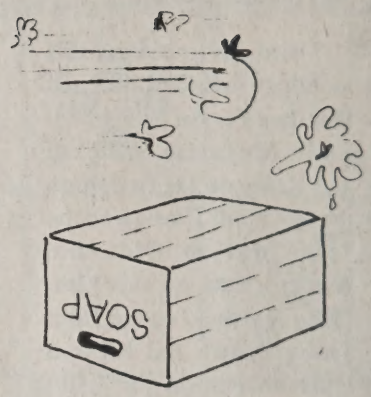

Editor's Soap Box

The proposed cement plant for Hudson (see article p. 4) should be of concern to Monterey residents because it is a potential threat to our environment and our health. But perhaps it needs to be pointed out that while it is important to be concerned about and fight when necessary the "bad companies" that pollute, we should not overlook our own share in the process. We live in a world we play a part in creating, and we contribute to pollution through our life-styles and the products we buy and use. Maybe it's time to face up to the fact that automobiles are one of the major sources of pollution — of course not automobiles on their own, but *our* driving of automobiles. As Pogo said, we have met the enemy and he is us.

— Will Marsh

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Glynis Oliver

Snow fell in Monterey on October 29, dusting the winterberries.

Calendar

Every Thursday except Thanksgiving: People's Pantry, 11:30–1:00 p.m., St. Peter's Parish, 16 Russell St., Great Barrington. Free food for the needy.

Monday, November 6: Archery season for deer opens; runs through November 25 (not on Sundays).

Tuesday, November 7: Election Day, polls open at Monterey Firehouse from 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 11:
Veterans' Day, Town Offices closed.
Full Moon.

Friday, November 17: Monterey Food Co-op order distribution and pick-up at Meetinghouse basement, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 21:
Free blood pressure clinic, 9:00–10:30 a.m., basement of Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.
Flu Clinic, 9–11 a.m. at the Town Hall.

The Observer
September 26—October 25

High temp. (10/2)	78°
Low temp. (10/10)	28°
Avg. high temp.	59.3°
Avg. low temp.	37.5°
Avg. temp.	48.4°
Total precipitation	3.03"

Precipitation occurred on 11 days

Thursday, November 23: Thanksgiving Day, Town Offices closed.

Saturday, November 25: Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m. at the Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Jeff Walker. All dances are taught, and beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults $5, children $2. Information 413-528-9385.

Monday, November 27: Shotgun season for deer opens; runs through December 9 (except on Sundays).

Saturday, December 2: Cell Towers Forum, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., at the Education Connection, Litchfield, Conn. A panel of experts discuss today's changing telecommunications landscape and what it means for local siting concerns. See p. 3.

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Contributions from local artists this month: George Emmons p. 18; MaryKate Jordan, p. 20; Bonner McAllester, p. 17; Mary McClelland, p. 9; Glynis Oliver, p. 22; Edith Wilson, p. 4.

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